

NOTICE.

COMMENCING from TO-DAY, the DAILY PRESS SUPPLEMENT EXTRA will be published at 9 A.M. and 1.30 P.M., continuing Arrivals of Vessels and Postal Notices up to these hours. Advertisements can be received, up to 8 A.M. and 12.45 P.M. for insertion in each issue respectively.

Daily Press Office, 31st March, 1860.

N O W O N S A L E .

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR CHINA, JAPAN, &c.,
For 1860.

With which is incorporated "THE CHINA DIRECTORY".

This Work, the ONLY one of the kind in China or Japan, is now in the

EIGHTH EDITION YEA R.

It has been compiled from the MOST AUTHENTIC SOURCES, and no pains have been spared to render it THOROUGHLY RELIABLE, both as a Directory and a Work of References on Commercial Matters.

Various additions have been made, tending to render the Work still more valuable for reference. The descriptions of each Port have been carefully revised, and the trade statistics brought down to the latest dates obtainable.

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Daily Press Office, 13th January, 1860.

NOTICE.

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NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm of A. S. Watson and Co., or to the HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, APRIL 1st, 1860.

The difficulty between France and Annam is, if our Saigon contemporary speaks with authority, to be settled without a blow being struck, without any display of armed force, without any demonstration of the superior might of the great French nation. It must be admitted that this will be most dignified, and most politic, perhaps, if it can really be effected. "The French Government," says the *Independent*, "will confine itself to giving the treaty of 1874 all the reach of which it is susceptible and to require its entire application. In virtue of this treaty, there exists, in effect, a true French protectorate, if not of the whole of Tonquin, at least of the parts open to foreign trade. This protectorate will be rendered real and effective." We are glad to note this announcement. Hitherto the protection, so far as French and foreign interests are concerned, has, according to our information, been worse than nominal. Nor have the natives found the influence of France tend to their advantage in any way. The only effect it has had heretofore has been to strengthen and confirm the tyranny of the mandarins. The French representatives in Tonquin have either been instructed not to actively interfere, or else they have been strangely apathetic to the commercial interests of their countrymen. They have supinely permitted the Annamite officials to place obstructions in the way of trade, and have not enforced the provisions of the treaty with vigour. All this is to be altered, we presume, and foreign trade with Haiphong and Haiphong should receive a great impulse. This cannot fail to be the case if the trade route up the river Song-koi be opened up. That such is the intention of the French Government is made manifest by the fact that a flotilla of small gunboats is about to be sent out from France which will be specially charged with the surveillance and survey of the Song-koi and its affluents. The river is infested near the frontier of Yunnan by armed bands of robbers and pirates, known as the Black- and Yellow-Flag rebels, who acknowledge no authority and yield obedience to no law but their own will. These bands will have to be dispersed before the navigation of the river can be rendered secure to any but armed steamers. Swift gunboats of every light draught are required for the work, and the craft to be sent out are, it is stated, of that description. They will soon clear the water of the desperadoes who now render its navigation a dangerous enterprise. This will be an easy matter, we believe, compared with the task of inducing the Annamite officials to keep faith. Those worthies enjoy a bad reputation, being as false as they are personally unclean. But the French Government has only to impress its representatives with the necessity of adopting an immovable position and exacting strict compliance with the treaty, and there will be little further trouble in its relations with the Government of Hue. Should the Emperor of ANNAM prove refractory at any time, France can always and easily punish him by annexing Tonquin to the French colonies in Cochinchina.

I must now pass sentence on two men, Auaan and Yam Kwok Wai, convicted on four counts; 1st, of forcibly detaining a female and adult two years old, and 2nd, of detaining the child for the purpose of association with the child, the 15th February last, and on the 3rd count of detaining the same child with the intent on the same day; on the 2nd count, by force bringing the same child into the Colony for the purpose of emigration on the same day, and the 4th count, of by fraud bringing the same child into the Colony for the same purpose on the same day.

This was much less complicated than the previous case. The second of those prisoners in Canton induced the father to let his little girl out with him to deliver a letter, and then took the child to the first prisoner; they both on the following day brought the child by the steamer to Hongkong. After staying a few days here they took the child on board the steamship for Macao just before the sun set.

Mr. Parker says, "A Chinese man, who is a robber-trader in slaves and other persons, is able to devote his attention to the interests of the bank which he has established.

Mr. Johnson said that under the circumstances he must take the evidence of Mr. Jackson, as that gentleman was not coming back again.

Mr. Johnson—I must read the portions containing the libel. I will not trouble your Worship with the whole of the letter at this stage, as the case is going to be adjourned, but the paragraphs containing the libel are these—

"Further, I would suggest that having regard to Mr. Nelson's public position as our agent, and possibly his having a great number of slaves under his command who became possessed of a transfer of certain slaves from the late Mr. Hayes on the eve of his departure, I am of opinion that he is guilty."

Mr. Johnson—This is what he says. The Warden would be somebody if he lived here, at least he has gone south for nine months and if he can secure a better billet in Victoria in the mean time it is not likely to return. He would be a fool if he did.

Another mob of 200 fat cattle have just arrived overland from Kowloon, and we can expect fresh arrivals of stock daily.

The Cruiser put a few of our European inhabitants to some inconvenience on her last trip down. Some went down to the port to await her arrival intending to go down south, and they had to wait over a month, and when she did arrive she happened to be simply a cargo boat with no accommodation for passengers, and so were unable to get passage to Hongkong, or to New Zealand. Perhaps they were anxious to see you little island and its 130,000 Chinese. We saw quite enough of them in all the fifth depicted in "Cynthia" on our gold fields.

It must be a poor place that won't support a Methodist Missionary. We boasted of one for number of years, who answered all pious purposes, but at last he has deserted us and left us to the care of another.

Mr. Parker—I have been manager of the Colony since the 1st of April, 1859.

Mr. Parker—Yes, I have got them now.

